



Bishopton Bugle



Headteacher: Mr. A. Smith
B.Ed (Hons), NPQH,
PGCertSEnCo

w/c: 15/9/25

Tel: (01789) 205058



Welcome to the newsletter of Bishopton Primary School

"Aim high, prepare to achieve"



Thank you key workers



How to keep in touch:

E: admin2603@welearn365.com

W: www.bishoptonprimary.co.uk



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What's on this week	Monday 15th September	Tuesday 16th September	Wednesday 17th September	Thursday 18th September	Friday 19th September
Before school	BASH (7.50-8.50am)				
Activities during the school day	Y5 Swimming	Forest School Y1EW	Forest School Y1R	Forest School Rec Butterflies	Y5 / 6 Homework
Lunchtime					Chess club (12.15pm Mrs. Jones; 1.00pm Mrs. Graver)
After school	BASH (3.15-5.30pm) Y4-6 Drama	Y1,2 Dance		Y4-6 Football	Y1-3 Football

Our values this half term: i). RESPECT ii). PRIDE

Dear parents,

Welcome to our second newsletter of the Autumn Term. As you will have noticed, there is a slightly different format to the newsletter this year. On the front page there are two 'standing' boxes containing the same information weekly.

The first of these is the box informing you of our current values for this half term. These values are important and provide children with a focus when they are in school. We refer back to these values repeatedly during the school week: Monday assemblies are always values-based; children are reminded of them daily in all situations and frequently children chosen as gold award winners on a weekly basis display one or both of the values consistently. If you can reinforce these values out of school, it would be of real value.

Furthermore, we would encourage all parents to spend time during your busy days to read to our children. A new study has stressed the importance of this and how reading to children increases their vocabulary immensely. Above anything else, sharing a book with a young person is a real joy, especially with the rich language opportunities this can create. Just a short time can make a big difference.

I hope that you all have a good weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday morning from 8.45am onwards.

Kind regards, Mr. Smith

GOLD AWARD:

Well done to these children who have been awarded Gold Awards this week These are celebrated during our Friday morning 'Gold Award' Assembly': Year 1R: Millie; Year 1EW: Evie; Year 2M: Miriam; Year 2P: Oliver; Year 3C: Kayla; Year 3A: Evie; Year 4N: Nishika; Year 4BH: Olivia P; Year 5SB: Cruz; Year 5C: Jack; Year 6G: Carter; Year 6CJ: Felix. Keep up the great work everyone!



GENERAL START OF YEAR 'REMINDERS':

As we start the new academic year, could we ask that parents please remember the following:

1. For Health and Safety reasons, dogs should **NOT** be brought onto the school site (including the car park) unless they are assistance dogs.
2. Parents should **NOT** park in the school car park at either end of the school day unless prior permission has been granted.
3. Please make every effort to follow our ONE-WAY SYSTEM around the school site. This helps with the flow of people around our busy school site.

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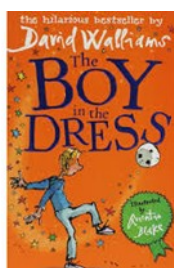


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CALLING ALL BUDDING ACTORS!

Are you a confident performer, both in acting and singing? Would you enjoy being part of group putting on a play this Christmas? This year drama club will be putting on the musical *The Boy in the Dress*. Auditions will take place on Monday 15th September from 3:15-4:15 for children in Years 4-6. All children, including those from drama club last year, need to audition if they want a part in the play. Drama Club is a commitment and if you wish to be part of this club you need to attend every session which will be on Mondays from 3:15-4:15. For those successful in the audition an email will be sent on Tuesday 16th September. Our first rehearsal will be on Monday 22nd September 3:15-4:15. Good luck!



STAYING SAFE ONLINE:

Online slang can be a vibrant way for young people to express themselves, but it also changes rapidly and can sometimes carry hidden meanings. This guide helps adults navigate this shifting landscape by breaking down what some of today's most-used slang terms actually mean and why they matter. From 'rizz' to 'sigma', it's a handy starting point for anyone wanting to better understand how young people communicate online.

This week's newsletter offers parents and educators information about online slang and the risks involved – from generational misunderstandings to being used as a veil for harmful content or behaviour. Importantly, it offers advice on encouraging open conversations and critical thinking about language. With slang constantly evolving, this guide encourages adults to stay curious, connected and supportive.

LITERACY NEWS:

Getting the most out of literature doesn't always mean reading- the theatre offers a different perspective and the feeling of watching a story come alive in front of you is a priceless experience. We are very fortunate this year to have so many favourite books being dramatised at various theatres in our local area. The first I would like to draw your attention to is Playbox's '*Goodnight Mr Tom*'. This powerful and beloved story follows young William Beech, evacuated from London during WWII, who finds an unexpected bond with the reclusive Mr Tom in the countryside. It's a heart-warming and deeply moving tale of friendship, healing, and resilience. There are tickets available from the 25th-28th of September. You can follow the link to find out more and book tickets:

<https://www.playboxtheatre.com/events/goodnight-mister-tom/>

As we move towards Christmas, we have Roald Dahl's classic, *The BFG*, here in Stratford. All of Year 5 and Year 6 will be going to watch what looks to be a phenomenal production of the little orphan who befriends a giant and helps save children's dreams. For those who are not in Year 5 or 6 and won't be going with school, it would be such a magical experience to go and see- maybe as a Christmas treat!

In 2026 we will have an exciting musical production, *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, also being formed by the RSC. This is the based on the book of the true story about a boy, William Kamkwamba, who saved his village from drought with his ingenuity and determination to build a windmill. This looks to be a truly uplifting tale. The following link to the RSC will allow you access to find out more about these productions.

<https://www.rsc.org.uk/whats-on/>

Enriching your literature through watching live performances is such a valuable experience and one children will no doubt treasure.

GOVERNORS CORNER:

Another school year begins, with a warm welcome to lots of new children and their families to Bishopton. I hope everyone has enjoyed the hot summer. It makes such a change for the rain to wait until the holiday is over before it returns. However, the rain is much needed for our gardens and the farmers. Also much needed are some new parent governors. We have two vacancies to fill, and I look forward to welcoming new members.

Being a school governor gives great insight into how the school is run and the challenges it faces. No prior knowledge is needed about education as there is lots of free training available. I know many governors in the past have found this not only helps to understand the educational world but also useful to enhance their own CVs.

Though no prior knowledge is needed, I am sure there is lots of experience and various skills amongst you that can enhance the board's ability to support the school. So, if you are new to the school or have been with us for some time, everyone, whatever your background, is welcome to apply.

Please do consider becoming a governor and help this be another successful school year.

Terry Pearson - Governor

BIKEABILITY:

A reminder that Level 1 and Level 2 Bikeability will take place from 22nd - 25th September.

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HEALTHY SNACKS:

Millions of children's snacks are prepared in British homes every weekday, yet a Food Standards Agency survey revealed that **three out of four** of these were likely to contain foods that were too high in saturated fat, salt or sugar. The same survey indicated that almost half of these snacks failed to include any fruit. Most, however, did include crisps, chocolate, biscuits, sugary drinks and other heavily processed foods.

A diet that's high in fat, high in salt, and high in refined carbohydrates reduces mental alertness, so a child eating these kinds of foods is likely to end up tired towards the end of the day. Also, a diet high in saturated fat and salt can lay the foundations for heart disease and high blood pressure later in life. Such a diet may also lead to obesity.

A healthy snack should help to improve your child's attention, behaviour and learning throughout the day and into the afternoon. We are proud of our 'Healthy School' status and would encourage you to support us in maintaining our status by providing a healthy snack for your child. Please reserve sweets and chocolate bars as treats to be enjoyed at home in moderation. Thank you, in anticipation, for your help with this.

NUT ALLERGIES:

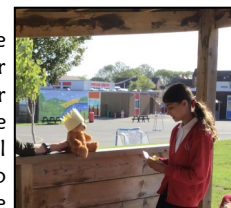
*A reminder to all parents that we have a number of children in school with severe nut allergies. If these children come into contact with nuts of any form the consequences will be extremely serious. Please help us to minimise this risk by **not** including any nuts in lunch boxes, including peanut butter.*

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN YEAR 6G?

Time does not stand still in Year 6 and we are off to a great start already with two fantastic visits accomplished! The RSC kindly invited us to their First Encounters dress rehearsal performance of King Lear. As this was potentially quite a challenging play we had a Literacy lesson prior to our theatre visit where King Lear was a teddy bear sporting a paper crown and his land, which he gave to those loyal to him, was jelly beans! The children got totally involved in their learning of the play and were completely drawn in for the afternoon's performance at the theatre.



September in Year 6 would not be the same without our annual trip to the River Avon for a day out bellboating. This year we were blessed with sunshine and the children soon picked up the essential bellboating skills and learnt how to negotiate other boats on the river. We even have the chance of participating in the bellboating regatta later in the term.



Our topic of Hola Mexico this term is such a vibrant one! We have started learning Spanish, replicated Mariachi style music and researched the geographical features of Mexico. The class are very keen to find out more about this fascinating country and all that it has to offer including Mexican cuisine. That will be something we look forward to during the last week of the term!



NOW AVAILABLE!

Have you seen our new jackets that children have worn for fixtures or events recently?

We are delighted to inform you that we are now able to sell these jackets as school coats.

The jackets come in four sizes (**140 / 152 / 164 and Small adult**) and cost £30 each (*cash only please*).

The jackets are available for immediate purchase from the main office.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Absence during term time

The Government brought in new guidance tightening taking time off in term-time.

Headteachers are no longer permitted to authorise absence for holidays taken during term time. They are permitted to grant leave only in exceptional circumstances.

If you think you have exceptional circumstances please talk to us without delay and before arrangements are entered into or money committed. If exceptional circumstances are accepted the Headteacher will determine how much absence will be authorised.

We understand that holidays are generally less expensive during term time but this does NOT count as an exceptional circumstance.

Parents please note:

Leave which is taken for the following reasons **will not** be authorised:

- * Availability of cheaper holidays
- * Availability of desired accommodation
- * Poor weather experienced in school holidays
- * Overlap with beginning or end of term



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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE SLANG

Slang moves fast – and for many young people, it's not just how they talk, but how they share their identity and feelings. Learning key terms helps adults connect and show understanding, even if the lingo seems baffling at first.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION**
Words like 'rizz' or 'slaps' can be misunderstood by adults, leading to awkward moments or a breakdown in trust. These phrases often carry subtle social meanings among young people.
- RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS**
Slang changes quickly. A term like 'bop' might sound innocent one week and be repurposed the next. This makes it easy for adults to fall behind and for children to misstep.
- SHIELDING BULLYING OR EXCLUSION**
Inside jokes and trending terms like 'simp' or 'NPC' can be used to mock or exclude others. What looks like harmless fun might actually reinforce social divisions or bullying.
- PERFORMING FOR THE ALGORITHM**
Slang often reflects what's popular on platforms like TikTok. Young users might exaggerate or act out for likes, creating online personas that don't match their real selves.
- CONTENT MODERATION WITH CODED SPEECH**
To avoid content filters, young people sometimes use slang or emojis to talk about serious topics – for example, saying 'unalive' instead of other death-related terms. This makes harmful content harder to spot.
- LONG-TERM DIGITAL FOOTPRINT**
A slang-filled post might seem funny now but could resurface years later during job checks or university applications – possibly out of context, but still damaging.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- KEEP UP, DON'T CATCH UP**
Follow youth culture pages or ask your child about new slang. Staying informed shows that you're engaged and open to understanding their world.
- ASK, DON'T INTERROGATE**
Use open questions to invite conversation. You're not quizzing them – just trying to learn more about their online lives.
- FOCUS ON CONNECTION OVER CONTROL**
Being someone your child can talk to is more valuable than using strict filters or monitoring apps. Openness builds trust.
- ENCOURAGE CRITICAL MEDIA LITERACY**
Talk about where slang comes from, how it spreads, and how it can impact others. This helps young people use language more thoughtfully.

ONLINE SLANG CHEAT SHEET -

The following slang terms are common examples – please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list and both meaning and prevalence can change swiftly.

COMMON SLANG:	POTENTIALLY CONCERNING SLANG
Sigma – Independent, self-reliant (often male) mindset; proud outsider status. Often celebrated in motivational memes. Skibidi – Nonsense word from the viral 'Skibidi Toilet' meme; expresses chaos or fun. Usually harmless but pervasive. Chat – The collective audience or group of viewers (e.g. on a livestream). Used when addressing followers directly. Lock in – To focus, commit or get serious (e.g. before gaming or sports). Positive encouragement to concentrate. Cooking – Doing something exceptionally well or gaining momentum. Opposite of 'cooked'. Rizz – Charisma or flirting ability (short for charisma). Can praise social confidence. Aura or aura farming – One's perceived 'energy' or vibe; 'farming' means manufacturing clout.	Rap – An adult content creator (e.g. OnlyFans), indicates exposure to 18+ material. Syat or gyatt – Sexualised exclamation about someone's backside. Objectifies appearance. Tralalero tralero / bombardino crescendito / tung tung tung sahur – Spammy references to AI-generated creatures with 'Italian-sounding' names. Can clog chats, derail discussion, and harass others. Slazing – Overpraising or obsessively defending a streamer or celebrity. Crash out – To lose control, give up or have a meltdown; sometimes hints at self-harm. Cooked – Ruined, exhausted or in serious trouble; sometimes mental health-related. Unalive – Euphemism for death or suicide; used to avoid content filters. NPC – Used to suggest someone is lacking independent thoughts or is repetitive and predictable.

Meet Our Expert
Keith Brani is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of emoji.pedia.org, the world's number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Quantico School of Business and Technology.

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The National College

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